United Nations ST/IC/2005/21

Secretariat

13 April 2005

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services

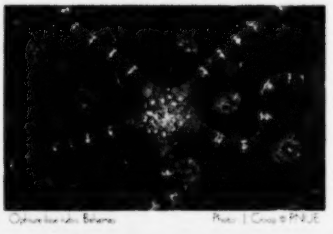
Subject: **First day of issue — 21 April 2005: "Nature's Wisdom" stamps and souvenir card**

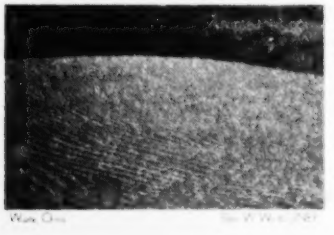
Commemorative stamps

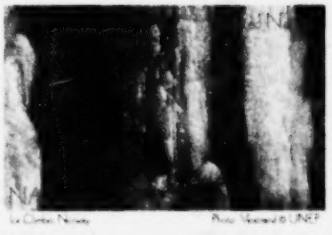
1. On Thursday, 21 April 2005, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of six new commemorative stamps on the theme "Nature's Wisdom". The release of these stamps coincides with the 2005 World Exposition in Aichi, Japan, which takes place from 25 March to 25 September. The United Nations will participate in the Expo. Within the overall theme of the Expo, "Nature's Wisdom", the United Nations Pavilion will focus on the subject "Celebrating Diversity", drawing on both cultural and natural diversity and their interdependence.

2. The stamp designs are from prize-winning photographs from past competitions of the United Nations Environment Programme "Focus on Your World" international photographic competition. The stamps, in denominations of $0.37, $0.80, F.s. 1,00, F.s. 1,30, €0,55 and €0,75, were adapted by Robert Stein (United Nations) from the photographs.

(Currency equivalents: F.s. 1,00: 88 cents; F.s. 1,30: $1.14; €0,55: $0.73; and €0,75: $0.99, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)







* Expiration date of the present information circular: 29 April 2005.

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Souvenir card

3. A souvenir card, also on the theme "Nature's Wisdom", will be issued on 21 April. The card, which was also designed by Robert Stein (United Nations), depicts the new stamps and carries a statement by the Secretary-General. The souvenir card will be available in mint condition as well as in three cancelled varieties. Each cancelled card will be affixed with the stamp from the UNPA office in New York, Geneva or Vienna and cancelled appropriately.

(Actual size: 8" x 6")

General information

4. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachets only. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain these items on Thursday, 21 April, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) The temporary sales counter located on the east side of the Secretariat Lobby between the cafeteria and newsstand, against the windows, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

5. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at a temporary United States Postal Service substation located outside the United Nations Bookshop in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

6. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.